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MEDIA NOTIFICATION
July 6, 2009

Office of the Mayor
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US Housing Secretary Shaun Donovan Visits Tuscaloosa

This morning, Mayor Walter Maddox and Council President Harrison Taylor hosted Cabinet Secretary, U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Shaun Donovan for a breakfast meeting at City Hall to discuss the HOPE VI Grant application for Rosedale Court. The meeting was arranged by Senator Richard Shelby. He, along with Congressman Spencer Bachus and Congressman Artur Davis, participated in the breakfast meeting. Following breakfast, Mayor Maddox joined Secretary Donovan for a tour of Rosedale Court and McKenzie Court. Secretary Donovan had an opportunity to meet with the executive staff at the Tuscaloosa Housing Authority Administrative Offices and be briefed firsthand about on-going projects. After the tour, Mayor Maddox, Council President Taylor and Councilman Bobby Howard attended a roundtable discussion on housing issues that was facilitated by Congressman Davis and included community stakeholders.

Mayor Maddox stated, "Our meeting with Secretary Donovan was extremely positive and productive. He was very knowledgeable about our initiatives to create affordable housing for this community and our long-standing efforts to revitalize Rosedale Court through the HOPE VI Grant. Secretary Donovan demonstrated a sincere interest in Tuscaloosa. I believe the series of meetings held today will make a true difference in the months and years ahead for our entire community. On behalf of the City, I want to sincerely thank Senator Shelby for arranging the Secretary's visit and Congressman Davis and Congressman Bachus for showing their unyielding support for Tuscaloosa."

After departing Tuscaloosa, Secretary Donovan met with officials in Birmingham before returning to Washington.

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